

Congressional Actions

Drauder 13

Lincoln Memorial

[Starr, W. Biography of Lincolniana..., nos. 181, 182, 364, 369, 370, 371, 373]

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Lincoln Memorial Congressional Actions

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

FOR THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS AND THE ERECTION OF A MONUMENT OR MONUMENTAL MEMORIAL TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

MAY 12, 1908.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. McCALL, from the Committee on the Library, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 21985.]

The Committee on the Library, having had under consideration the bill (H. R. 21985) for the enlargement of the Capitol grounds and for the erection of a monument or monumental memorial to Abraham Lincoln, report, recommending that it do pass with amendments.

The purpose of the bill is to take the land from the Senate Office Building westward as far as New Jersey avenue and from the northerly end of the Capitol grounds as far as Massachusetts avenue and the new Union Station grounds. In all, including the streets, it comprises about 36 acres, an area greater than is included in the present Capitol grounds, the dignity and impressiveness of which it will greatly augment. The bill puts the acquisition of the land in the hands of a commission composed of the Vice-President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Superintendent of the Capitol Building and Grounds. The sum of \$3,250,000 is authorized to be expended to acquire and grade, lay out, and improve the land.

In addition the bill creates a commission to place upon some suitable part of the land thus authorized to be taken a monument or monumental memorial to Abraham Lincoln and appropriates \$1,000,000 for that purpose. There should be a memorial to Lincoln in its way as noble and as impressive as the monument to Washington. If the memorial to Lincoln were placed in the part of the city where the monument to Washington is situated it would destroy the monumental balance of the city. The Washington Monument dominates that part of the city. What more fitting place could there be for a monument to Lincoln than upon this proposed extension of the Capitol grounds, fronting the gateway of the nation to its Capitol?

Amend by striking out of lines 1 and 2, on page 2, the words "seven hundred and twenty-one, seven hundred and twenty-two." Also amend by striking out from line 6, on page 2, the words "four million" and inserting in place thereof the words "three million two hundred and fifty thousand."

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 28, 1909.

Mr. NEWLANDS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Library.

A BILL

For the erection of a Lincoln memorial.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the sum of three million dollars is hereby appropriated
4 for the erection of a memorial to Abraham Lincoln on the
5 Mall west of the Washington Monument and for the laying
6 out, planting, and embellishing such portion of the Mall in
7 accordance with the report and recommendation of D. H.
8 Burnham, Charles F. McKim, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, and
9 F. L. Olmsted, junior, in Senate Report Numbered One
10 hundred and sixty-six, Fifty-seventh Congress, first session.

11 SEC. 2. That such work shall be supervised by the
12 Supervising Architect of the Treasury under the direction of
13 the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of War,
14 and such appropriation shall be immediately available.

60TH CONGRESS, }
2D Session.

S. 8927.

A BILL

For the erection of a Lincoln memorial.

By Mr. NEWLANDS.

JANUARY 28, 1909.—Read twice and referred to the
Committee on the Library.

60TH CONGRESS, } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. } REPORT
 2d Session. } No. 2106.

COMMISSION TO RECOMMEND A DESIGN AND SITE FOR A MONUMENT
 OR MONUMENTAL MEMORIAL TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN, ETC.

FEBRUARY 10, 1909.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state
 of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. McCALL, from the Committee on the Library, submitted the
 following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. J. Res. 254.]

The Committee on the Library, having had under consideration the resolution creating a commission to recommend a design and site for a monument or monumental memorial to Abraham Lincoln, and for other purposes (H. J. Res. 254), report that the same ought to pass.

During the last previous session of Congress the Committee on the Library reported a bill to take the tract of about 40 acres of land adjoining the north side of the Capitol grounds and to provide for the erection of a memorial to Lincoln upon some portion of the same. The committee had two purposes in view: first, the erection of a memorial to Lincoln, provided it could be done with due regard to artistic requirements, upon a site where the great mass of the people could most easily see it; and second, to convert an ignominious approach to the National Capitol into an impressive and dignified one. But a controversy has arisen over the proposed site and, for the purpose of taking some definite step and having the question of the character of the memorial and its location considered, the resolution now favorably reported by the committee provides for the appointment of a small commission of whom a majority are architects of repute. The resolution provides that this commission shall serve without compensation and shall report to Congress its conclusions upon the questions involved at the next session.

Abraham Lincoln has been dead nearly a half century. There is no greater name in the history of our country, or indeed of any country. No step has yet been taken to secure a suitable memorial to him in the national capital. The committee believes that the hundredth year from that in which he was born should not pass by without the taking of some direct step, and they therefore recommend the passage of the accompanying resolution.



5307
62D CONGRESS,
3D SESSION.

House Calendar No. 352.

S. CON. RES. 32.

[Report No. 1294.]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DECEMBER 13, 1912.

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

JANUARY 3, 1913.

The Committee on Appropriations discharged, and referred to the Committee on the Library.

JANUARY 13, 1913.

Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION.

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring)*, That the plan, design, and location for a
3 Lincoln Memorial, determined upon and recommended to
4 Congress December fourth, nineteen hundred and twelve,
5 by the commission created by the Act entitled "An Act to
6 provide a commission to secure plans and designs for a
7 monument or memorial to the memory of Abraham Lin-
8 coln," approved February ninth, nineteen hundred and
9 eleven, be, and the same are hereby, approved.

Passed the Senate December 13, 1912.

Attest:

CHARLES G. BENNETT,

Secretary.

62ND CONGRESS, }
3^D Session. } **S. Con. Res. 32.**

[Report No. 1294.]

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Approving plan, design, and location for a
Lincoln Memorial.

DECEMBER 13, 1912.—Referred to the Committee on
Appropriations.

JANUARY 3, 1913.—The Committee on Appropriations
discharged, and referred to the Committee on the
Library.

JANUARY 13, 1913.—Referred to the House Calendar
and ordered to be printed.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

JANUARY 28, 1913.

Mr. STEPHENS of Texas submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Library and ordered to be printed.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION.

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate con-*
2 *curring),* That the plan, design, and location for a Lincoln
3 memorial, determined upon and recommended to Congress
4 December fourth, nineteen hundred and twelve, by the com-
5 mission created by the Act entitled "An Act to provide a
6 commission to secure plans and designs for a monument or
7 memorial to the memory of Abraham Lincoln," approved
8 February ninth, nineteen hundred and eleven, be, and the
9 same are hereby disapproved, and the said commission is
10 hereby continued with directions to select a location in the
11 city of Washington, District of Columbia, and to secure
12 plans and designs for the erection of a Lincoln national
13 memorial hall, and to make recommendation and report
14 thereon to Congress at the session beginning the first Mon-
15 day in December, nineteen hundred and thirteen, said hall
16 to be erected and dedicated to the memory of Abraham

- 1 Lincoln, and to be suitable for use as an auditorium for all
- 2 such national and international public assemblies and uses as
- 3 Congress may hereafter designate.

62^d CONGRESS, }
3^d Session. } **H. Con. Res. 69.**

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Disapproving the recommendations of the
Lincoln Memorial Commission, continuing
said commission, and directing it to make
further report.

By Mr. STEPHENS of Texas.

JANUARY 28, 1913.—Referred to the Committee on
the Library and ordered to be printed.

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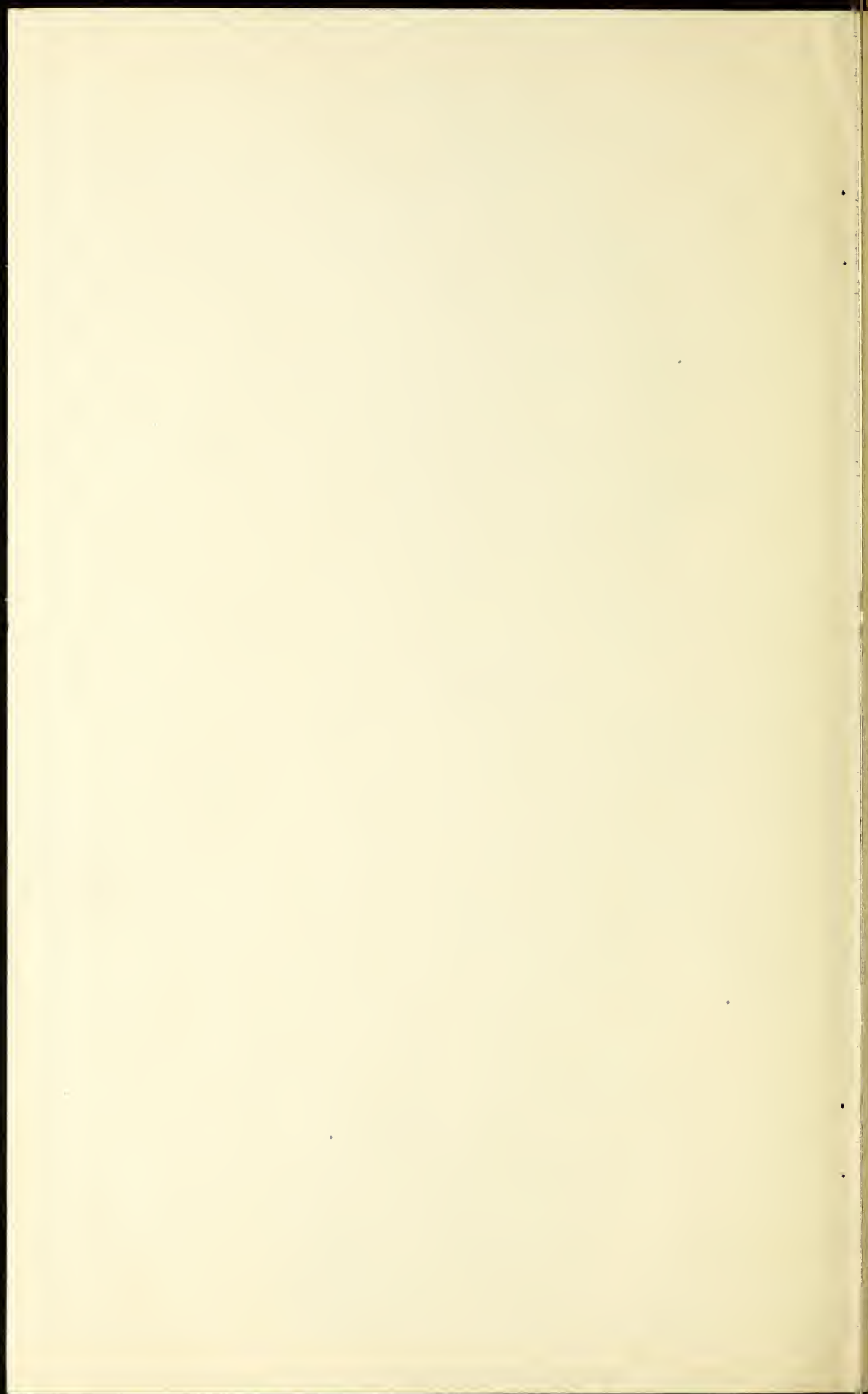
[PUBLIC RESOLUTION—No. 66.]

[S. J. Res. 158.]

Joint Resolution Approving the plan, design, and location for a Lincoln Memorial.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the plan, design, and location for a Lincoln Memorial, determined upon and recommended to Congress December fourth, nineteen hundred and twelve, by the commission created by the Act entitled "An Act to provide a commission to secure plans and designs for a monument or memorial to the memory of Abraham Lincoln," approved February ninth, nineteen hundred and eleven, be, and the same are hereby, approved.

Approved, February 1, 1913.



H. J. RES. 10.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

APRIL 7, 1913.

Mr. AUSTIN introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Making the twelfth day of February in each year a legal holiday.

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
- 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That the twelfth day of February in each year, being the
- 4 birthday of Abraham Lincoln, is hereby made a legal public
- 5 holiday to all intents and purposes in the same manner as
- 6 Christmas, the first day of January, the twenty-second day
- 7 of February, the thirtieth day of May, the fourth day of
- 8 July, and the first Monday of September are now made by
- 9 law public holidays.

63D CONGRESS, } H. J. RES. 10.
1ST SESSION.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Making the twelfth day of February in each
year a legal holiday.

By Mr. Austin.

APRIL 7, 1913.—Referred to the Committee on the
Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

